

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 ADDIS 05219 310958Z  
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07  
L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 AID-05  
ACDA-07 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 /058 W  
-----126693 311005Z /14

O 310843Z AUG 77  
FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5434

S E C R E T ADDIS ABABA 5219

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PDIP, MASS, ET, US  
SUBJ: MEETING WITH MENGISTU

REF: A. STATE 191143, B. STATE 206774, C. ADDIS ABABA 5172

1. IN RESPONSE TO MY REQUEST FOR MEETING WITH MENGISTU, I WAS CALLED TO MENELIK PALACE WITH NO NOTICE AT ALL THIS MORNING. I MADE ALL POINTS PARAS 3-5 REFTEL (A) AS AMENDED BY REFTEL (B). MENGISTU REPLIED IN CORDIAL TERMS, EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR OUR GROWING COMPREHENSION OF ETHIOPIAN REVOLUTION, BUT PICKED UP SPECIFICALLY ONLY MY REFERENCE TO OUR INTEREST IN HIS PROPOSAL TO SEND AN AMBASSADOR TO WASHINGTON, SAYING THAT IT WAS INDEED THEIR INTENTION TO ACCREDIT AN AMBASSADOR TO WASHINGTON AND THAT WE SHOULD CONSIDER IT A SIGN THAT ETHIOPIA SINCERELY WISHED TO IMPROVE RELATIONS.

2. HE THEN STOPPED AND CONFERRED BRIEFLY WITH MAJOR BERHANE BAYEH OF PMAC, FOLLOWING WHICH HE LAUNCHED INTO 10-MINUTE EXPOSE IN NEED IN TERMS OF HOSTILITIES NOW ENGAGING ETHIOPIA FOR MILITARY EQUIPMENT CONTRACTED FOR BY EPMG IN U.S. (HE SPECIFICALLY MENTIONED SPARES AND AMMO BUT CAREFULLY NOTED HE NOT REFERRING TO ANYTHING NEW), AND TO CONTRIBUTION WE COULD MAKE TO OUR UNDERSTANDING OF REVOLUTION BY PERMITTING DELIVERY OF THAT EQUIPMENT, A  
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CONTRIBUTION THAT ETHIOPIAN PEOPLE WOULD NEVER FORGET. I TOLD HIM THAT AS HE KNEW, WE CONSIDERED OUR MILITARY SUPPLY RELATIONSHIP TO HAVE BEEN TERMINATED AND SAID THAT I WOULD BE LESS THAN HONEST WITH HIM IF I DID NOT SAY THAT IT WAS MY UNDERSTANDING THAT WE WERE NOT PREPARED UNDER PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES TO RESUME IT. I WOULD NONETHELESS CERTAINLY PASS ON HIS VIEWS TO WASHINGTON.

3. COMMENT: MENGISTU WAS RELAXED AND GENERALLY CORDIAL. THIS TIME THERE WERE NONE OF THE CONVOLUTED EXPLANATIONS OF THE PAST TWO MEETINGS. HE MADE NO COMMENT TO MY REPLY ON MILITARY ASSISTANCE. IF NOTHING ELSE, HE GAVE IMPRESSION OF BEING MORE COMFORTABLE IN HIS DISCUSSIONS WITH ME. DETAILED REPORT OF CONVERSATION BY SEPTTEL. TIENKEN

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS  
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**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
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**Reference:** 77 STATE 191143, 77 STATE 206774, 77 ADDIS ABABA 5172  
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**SAS ID:** 1567351  
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**TAGS:** PDIP, MASS, ET, US, (MENGISTU HAILE MARIAM)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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